A SPEECH MADE BY ALDERMAN GARROVVAY, AT A COMMON-HALL on Tuesday the IANUARY.

UPON OCCASION OF A SPEECH delivered there the Friday before, by Mr *Pym*, at the reading of His MAJESTIES Answer to the *late Petition.*

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GENTLEMEN,

BEfore We enter upon the busineſſe of the day, I muſt in diſcharge of my duty ſpeak freely to you of the laſt daies work which lyes ſo heavy upon us, that if we find not ſome way to free our ſelves of the ſcandall and diſhonour of that day, farewell the reputation of this Councell, and of this Citty. We ſent a Petition lately to His Majeſty, by ſixe worthy Members of this Court, if you will believe them, they received a very gratious entertainment from His Majeſty; and if you will believe moſt wiſe men, they brought a very gratious Anſwer back from His Majeſty, with directions by a Servant of His own, that the ſame ſhould be communicated to the whole Citty, from whom the Petition was preſumed to be ſent, a Circumſtance as gratious as the matter it ſelfe. See now how we have requited him: His Meſſenger ſtaies tenne daies at the leaſt before we can vouchſafe to ſpeak with him, whereas ours ſtayed not an hower for admiſſion to His Majeſty, and

but a day for an answer: upon the receipt of our Petition, His Majesty spake very gratiously of the Citty, very affectionately of the most considerable part of it; when his Answer is read (an Answer I must tell you, worth another manner of debate) Strangers are admitted to make bitter invective Speeches against it, and the King that sent it; Whilest no honest Cittizen, who have only right to speake here, durst speak his Conscience for fear of having his Throat cut as he went home. Think (Gentlemen) what an encouragement we have given His Majesty to treat and correspond with us, whilest he is thus used; I am farre from undervaluing both, or either House of Parliament, I have been often a Member of the House of Commons, and know well my duty to it; but though their Priviledges are infinitely grown and enlarged since that time, I hope they have not swallowed up all other mens; though they are the great Councell and Court of the Kingdom, yet there are other Councells and Courts too, what doe we else here? And though they have a great Liberty of Language within their own walls, I never heard that they might speak what they list in other places. In my time when there was any occasion to use the Citty, as often there was, the Lord Major, or Aldermen, or some trusted by them were sent for to attend either House, but for Members of either or both Houses to come hither, and be present at Our Councells, and governe here by Priviledge of Parliament, was never heard of till of late: you will say 'tis a great Honour to us, that those worthies take the paines to come to us, when they might send for us, it may be an honour too great for us to beare, and truly, I believe it hath been so chargeable to us, that we ought not to be ambitious of such honour. M. *Pym* (who hath been a very costly Orator to us) told us, (and his speech is since printed for our honour too, to shew how tame a People we are) that there were many things in that Answer of great aspersion upon the proceedings of Parliament, and so forth. Truely I know no such thing, if we Petitioned for Peace, we were to expect His Majesty would tell us by what means that Peace came to be disturbed, and then prescribe us a means for our reparation. If any mans guilt hath made him think himselfe concerned in it, though he be not named, he is his own Accuser.

He told us that there was no occasion given by any Tumults which might

might justly cause His Majesties departure, and this he said was the opinion of both Houses, and his proofe was, because His Majesty came into the Citty without a Guard, and dined at the Sheriffes next day after his comming to the House of Commons, and returned back again to *White-hall*, where he staied some daies. I am willing to believe both Houses as farre as I am able, and if they had declared that it had bin Lawfull to beat the King out of Town, I must have sate still with wonder; but when they declare to us matter of fact, which is equally within our own knowledge, and wherein we cannot be deceived, they must pardon me if I differ from them. If they should declare, that they have paid us all the Mony they owe us, or that there is no Crosse standing in *Cheapside*, could we believe them? Why, Gentlemen, neither of these is better known to us, then that there were such Tumults at Westminster, as might very well make the King think Himselfe in danger. We all well remember what excellent company flocked by *White-hall* every day, for a week before the King went to the House of Commons, and for His comming to the *Guild-hall* the next day, when he did us so much honour, to vouchsafe us so particular satisfaction, and came without a Guard, to shew how much He trusted in our Duty and Affection, (I pray God the deceiving that trust may never rise in Iudgement against this Citty,) we too well remember the rude carriage of many people to Him as He went to the Sheriffes to Dinner, which was not so much as reprehended by any Officer; and we all know what passed the night following, when an Alarum was given, that there was an attempt from *White-hall* upon the Citty, and so all men put into suddain Armes, and if by the great industry and dexterity of Our good Lord Major, that Hubbub had not been appeased, God knows what might have followed, if you will believe some men, they will tell you the Designe of those who gave that Alarum, was no lesse then to pull downe *White-hall*. There is no question but there was cause enough for His Majesty to remove from *White-hall*, and how quietly he staied after at *Hampton-Court*, and at *Windsore*, cannot be forgotten, not to speak of that Army by Land and Water, which accompanied the Persons Accused to Westminster, the next day after His Majesties returne, the danger of which was so great, that

no honeſt man could have wiſhed the King had runne the hazard of it by ſtaying.

His Majeſty ſeems to be ſenſible that the Government of this Citty is now ſubmitted to the Arbitrary Power of a few deſperate Perſons, to which the Gentleman gave us this teſtimony from both Houſes, that we had in moſt of the great occaſions, concerning the Government of the Citty, followed their direction; Troth Gentlemen, would they had furniſhed us with a better Anſwer. Have we our Charter by the Grace and Favour of the two Houſes, or by the Goodneſſe of the King? Have we thoſe Priviledges with Forraine Princes, by which many here have gotten ſuch eſtates, by the power of the Houſes, or by the Protection of the King? Why ſhould we then govern the Citty by the direction of both Houſes? I am not willing to ſpeak ſlightly of any Perſons gotten into Authority, only we may ſay, there be ſome amongſt us, we did not think two years agoe to have met here, and yet we were wont to ſee an Alderman comming a dozen yeer off. I cannot tell what you mean by Arbitrary power, but I am ſure we are governed by nothing we were uſed to be governed by. I have been Lord Major my ſelfe, in a pleaſanter time then this, and ſhould have ſome ſhare ſtill in the Government; before God, I have no more Authority in the Citty, then a Porter, not ſo much as an *Alderman bury* Porter. If to be governed by People whoſe Authority we know not, and by Rules which no body ever heard of, or can know, be a ſigne of Arbitrary Power, we have as much of it as heart can wiſh.

To the Kings charge of our Contributing for the maintenance of the Army which had given Him Battell, we were told that diverſe practices were made againſt the Parliament before they made any preparation for their defence. By practices I think they mean Feares and Iealouſies, for all the particulars mentioned by Him, we know, and are underſtood by all the Boyes in the ſtreet; but we are ſure there were ten Thouſand men raiſed and Armed out of this Towne, and the neighbour Counties, before the King had ſeven hundred. To the danger of the Kings Perſon was in (at the thought whereof every honeſt heart trembles) the Gentleman told us they were ſorry for it, I dare not tell you what I think their ſorrow was. But (Maſters) if you knew how much your

Eſtates,

Estates, and Being depends upon the life and safety of our good King, you would no sooner apprehend Him in danger, then you would runne to His rescue, as you would fly from the Plague and Beggery. But that reproach of maintaining the Kings Children here, I confesse made my heart rise, I hope it did so to many here: Is our good King fallen so low, that His Children must be kept for Him, 'tis worth our enquiry who brought Him to that condition? We heare Him complain that all his Owne Revenue is seized and taken from Him; Is not His *Exchequer*, Court of *Wards*, *Mint* here, His *Customes* too are worth somewhat, and are His Children kept upon Almes? How shall we and our Children prosper, if this be not remedied?

They will by no meanes endure that His Majesty be obeyed in the apprehension of the Lord Major, and the other three Gentlemen, for it is the sense of both Houses that this demand is against the Priviledge of Parliament, and most dishonourable to the Citty; for the first I dare not speak my mind, though I must confesse my self not able to answer the Kings reasons in many of His Declarations upon that point; but for the second, (under the favour of both Houses) whether it be dishonourable for the Citty, whether it be fit to be done or no, we are the best, indeed we are the only Iudges: I will take the liberty to speak freely my Conscience in this Case, as a friend to Iustice, as a lover of these men, and as a Servant to the Citty, and as all these I protest to God, if I were now Lord Major, and the other three were my Father, and my Brothers, I would satisfie the King in this point. Did His Majesty aske to have them put to death meerely upon His Accusation, or have them sent bound hand and foot to *Oxford*, where it might be in His power to proceed against them in an extraordinary way, it might seeme unreasonable: but to apprehend them to keep them in safe custody, that His Majesty may proceed against them according to the known Lawes, under which they were borne and bred, where if guilty, they must be left to the Iustice of the law, and His Majesties mercy, if innocent, will receive an honourable acquittall, seemes to me so just in the King to aske, and so necessary for us to yeild to, that the denying it implies a doubt in us of the Innocence of those whom we will not submit to Iustice. Here is a way to find out the Kings Evill Counsellors! If these men doe their part like men of

good

good conſciences, ſubmitt to the tryall of the Law, which is the only Iudge of Guilt and Innocence, and are found cleere from that heavy charge His Majeſtie accuſes them of, how glorioufly will theſe men live hereafter, and the King cannot refuſe to deliver thoſe up who have wickedly conſpired the deſtruction of honeſt men; but if we ſhall only cry out that the King is miſinformed, and dare not truſt our ſelves upon a tryall, we may preſerve our ſafety, but we ſhall looſe our reputation: Thus much for Iuſtice, for the Gentlemens ſakes now: This way you ſee, a way to honour and ſafety too, if there be Innocence; but doe you think after a moneths longer enduring the miſeries which are now upon us, men will not more importunately, and impatiently enquire after the cauſes of their ſufferings, if they ſhall find that the denyall to give up foure men (who it may be are not of any knowne merit too) to be tryed by the Law, being accuſed of High Treaſon, and conſpiring to take away the Kings Life, incenſed our gratious King againſt us, and kept Him from being amongſt us, whereby our Trade decaies, and ſuch violencies and outrages are every day committed, I ſay, can any foure men beare the burthen of this enuy and malice? will not ſome ſtout, bold Perſons, incenſed and made deſperate by their, and the common ſufferings, teare theſe men in peices? We have been all young men and Apprentiſes, let us remember the ſpirit was then amongſt us, would we have ſuffered all our hopes to have been blaſted, and deſtroyed by any foure, or fourteen men? Let us not flatter our ſelues, there is the ſame courage ſtill in the Citty, which at ſome time will break out to the ruine of more then theſe men; but I thank that worthy that told us, that it is againſt the rules of Iuſtice, that any men ſhould be impriſon'd upon a generall charg, when no particulars are proved againſt them; How inſenſibly in other mens caſes doe we accuſe our ſelves, why, how many of us within theſe ſix Moneths have been committed upon a generall charg? How many Perſons of Honour and Reputation are now impriſoned in this Towne, when particulars are ſo far from being proved againſt them, that they are not ſo much as ſuggeſted; was ever any Charg ſo generall as to be a Malignant or Cavalier? yet you heare all ſuch impriſonments are againſt the Rules of Iuſtice; my opinion is that for Iuſtice ſake, for the Citties ſake, for their owne ſakes, theſe foure men ſhould quietly ſubmitt themſelves

ſelves to the tryall of the Law; if they refuſe, that they be delivered up to the hands of Iuſtice.

Mr *Pym* told us, there was no proofe that my Lord Maior, and the other Perſons named, were countenancers of *Browniſts*, *Anabaptiſts*, and other Sectaries; where ſhould this proofe be made? Doe we not all know this to be true; are they not all ſo much countenanced, as there is no countenance left for any body elſe? Did not my Lord Major firſt enter upon his Office, with a ſpeech againſt the Booke of *Common-Prayer*? hath the *Common-Prayer* ever been read before him? hath not Captain *Venn* ſaid that his Wife could make Prayers worth three of any in that Booke? Oh (Maſters) there have been times that he that ſhould ſpeak againſt the Booke of *Common-Prayer* in this Cittie, ſhould not have been put to the patience of a Legall Triall; we were wont to look upon it as the greateſt Treaſure, and Iewell of our Religion, and he that ſhould have told us he wiſhed well to our Religion, and yet would take away the Book of *Common-Prayer*, would never have gotten credit. I have been in all the parts of Chriſtendom, and have converſed with Chriſtians in Turky, why, in all the Reformed Churches there is not any thing of more Reverence, then the *Engliſh Lyturgy*, not our Royall Exchange, or the name of Queen *Elizabeth*, ſo famous. In *Geneva* it ſelfe I have heard it extolled to the Skies. I have been 3. Monthes together by Sea, not a day without hearing it read twice. The honeſt Mariners then deſpiſed all the world but the King and the Common-Prayer Book, he that ſhould have been ſuſpected to wiſh ill to either of them, would have made an ill Voyage. And let me tell you, they are ſhrewd Youths thoſe Seamen, if they once diſcerne that the Perſon of the King is in danger, or the true Proteſtant profeſſed Religion, they will ſhew themſelves mad bodies, before you are aware of it; I would not be a *Browniſt* or an *Anabaptiſt* in their way for ------.--- But we are told of an Army of *Papiſts*, who will root out our Religion; for my part, I am ſure I am not ſuſpected for any affection to *Papiſts*, yet I confeſſe at this time, I have not the leaſt feare of danger from them, and the truth is, this Bugbeare is growne leſſe terrible to every body. We know from the beginning of this Parliament, the continuall diſcovery of Plotts by the *Papiſts*, and what thoſe diſcoveries have coſt us, and yet to this day not the leaſt probable

charg objected against them. When the King was at *Yorke*, no discourse here, but of the *Papists* being there in multitudes, when 'tis well knowne, His Majestie took all possible care to prevent the resort of any *Papists* to the Court, and I have been assured by very honest men, that in a Moneth there was scarce the face of one *Papist* there. When he first raised His Army, did he not by Proclamation forbid any to come to Him? ---But hark, you Gentlemen, where would you have these *Papists* be? can they live in the Ayre, or in the Water? beyond-Sea you will not suffer them to passe; if they stay at their Houses, they are Plundered, 'tis a good Justification for Plundering, that they are *Papists*. Are they not the Kings Subjects, and should they not fly to Him for Protection? Is there any Law that saies the *Papists* must not assist the King with Men, Armes, or Money, when He is in distresse, and when He conceives Himselfe to be in danger of His Life? Let us look about us, if this world hold, not only all the *Papists*, but all the Gentlemen of England will find it necessary to carry all they have to the King, and venture it in that bottome.

But both Houses have declared that there have been no plundring by the direction of Parliament. Here I thinke they would be willing to admit the King to be a part of the Parliament, to save their honour, otherwise if plundring signifies the comming with violence into ones house, and taking away his goods against his consent, sure there have been much plundring, even by the direction of the Houses; but have they ever punished plundering of the worst sort, if they have not directed it? will a Declaration of both Houses repaire the fine Wane-scott, and the goodly Leads of honest *George Binyons* house? Let me tell you, the time hath been the losse of such a Cittizen would have been talked of in another way. --- I wonder what kind of Government is preparing for Vs, when they will not allow that the Imprisonment of Our Person is the taking away Our Liberty, or the taking away the twentieth part of Our Estates, is the destruction of Our Property; and did you marke what a notable reason was given Vs for this; the same Law that doth enable them to raise Forces, doth likewise enable them to require Contributions, it doth indeed, yet one might be without the other; but I would these Gentlemen had chose another Auditory to have convinced with this Argument; the Countrey

trey people will be no more couzened by the Citty, when they heare what kind of Oratory prevailes over us; we shall be shortly told when they have a mind to our houses, that the same Law which gave them Authority to take away our Mony, gave them likewise Power to doe the other too.

The King tells us, if we shall hereafter contribute any thing for the maintenance of the Army, which He saies is in Rebellion against him, (He pardon's what's past, marke that,) He will deny us the benefit of His Protection with Forraigne Princes, which He will signify to His forraigne Ministers; what remedy have the Lords and Commons found for this now? Sufficient to doe the businesse, they declare That this is an excesse of Rigor, and injustice beyond example, and therefore they hope His Majesty will be induced by better Counsell to forbeare the execution. A very soveraigne Declaration, but 'tis tenne to one if we doe not obey His Majesty in the Injunction he hath laid upon us, He will use this excesse of rigour. I know not how little you, that trade only within the Kingdome, may think your selves concerned in this, but I say whoever understands the Trade abroad, and the benefit of being a Subject to the King of England, will not runne this hazard; for let him be assured in the instant the King disclaimes him, he is ruined, and therefore you who have Estates abroad, look to it.

Gentlemen, I have troubled you very long, but in good faith, the manner and the matter of the last daies work, hath layen so heavy upon my heart, that I should have thought I had forfeited this Gowne, and this Chaine if I had been silent, and that I had betrayed the Liberty of that famous Citty, which I am sworn to defend. One word I had forgotten to mention, the caution which was given us of such Messengers as His Majesty should send, that we should observe them, that they might be dealt with, as Messengers of Sedition; God forbid we should live to see any Messengers sent to us from our gratious King evilly entreated, I would be loath my selfe to outlive such a dishonour; if His Majesty shall vouchsafe us the Honour to send to us, let us use and defend His Servants, as Persons sent to us for our good; if it shall be otherwise Fire from Heaven will consume this Citty. Let us not be wrought upon by faire words, to contribute or lend more mony for

the maintenance of this Civill, Bloody diſſention, or bring deſolation and confuſion upon this glorious Citty for the ſupport of foure Men, who if Innocent will be ſafe, but let us remember the happines and flouriſhing Eſtate we enjoyed, whileſt we yeelded obedience to our Royall Soveraigne. Let us not upon the generall diſcourſe of Evill Counſellors, Rebell againſt a Prince, upon whoſe perſon malice, and Treaſon cannot lay the leaſt blemiſh, but muſt confeſſe His Religion, Iuſtice, and Charity to be ſo tranſcendent, that if He were a Subject would render Him moſt amiable. Let us conſider that if He be oppreſſed, there can be no end of theſe troubles, but we and our children ſhall be perpetually weltring in a Sea of blood; whereas if His Enemies be overthrown, the whole Kingdome will within a Moment be reſtored to all the calme, Pleaſure, and Plenty of Peace. And therefore if we intend to enjoy what we have, and that the younger men ſhall grow up to the ſame Eſtate we enjoy; if the memory of our forefathers, or the hope of out Poſterity can move any thing with us, let us lay hold on the Kings Mercy, and ſubmit to every Propoſition in His Anſwer.

WHileſt the Alderman was ſpeaking this Speech, ſeverall great interruptions were made with Hiſſing, and other ſuch noyſes, ſome crying, *No more, No more*, others as importunately *Heare him, Heare him, Heare him*; ſo that it was about an hower after he began to ſpeak, before he ended; when ever the clamor began to ſtop him, he ſate down, without ſhew of any diſturbance, and when that noyſe was conquered, he began again, ſaying what he ſaid laſt, and ſo proceeded; only once when Alderman *Bunce* ſaid, he ſpoke againſt the Honourable Houſe of Commons, and that it was not to be endured, the Alderman replyed with a little ſharpneſſe, that he had as much liberty to ſpeak in that place, as any Member of the Houſe of Commons had in the Houſe of Commons, and if other men were content to looſe their Priviledges, it ſhould be remembred that it was againſt his will. At which there was a great ſhout and acclamation; *we will not looſe our Priviledges*, and after that there was not the leaſt interruption, but the Alderman was heard with great patience and attentation.

tention. As ſoon as the Speech was done, and the great ſhout and hem ended (which ſome in the ſtreet apprehended to be a Conſent to lend Mony to the Parliament, and ranne to Weſtminſter & acquainted the Houſe of Commons with it, whereupon) foure Members were appointed to draw up a Declaration of Thankes to the Citty,) the Lord Major, trembling and ſcarce able to ſpeak, asked, what their reſolution was concerning aſſiſting the Parliament with mony, for the payment of their Army, and recovering his voyce by degrees, offered them ſome reaſons, and asked them whether they would looſe all their thankes for what they had done already, but the cry was ſo great, *no Mony, no Mony, Peace, Peace*; that he could not be heard. One that ſtood neer the Major anſwered, that he doubted not whoever could make it appeare he had deſerved thankes, might call for it, and have it, that the queſtion was not, upon looſing of ſome, but forfeiting of all, and whether the Citty would periſh, or quit foure Men, for whom they had no reaſon to care; The voyce was ſo great, one crying, *that they who ſet them to work ſhould defend them*, another, *that ſince theſe troubles none but Bankrupts and Knaves had proſpered*, a third, *that if they had common honeſty, they would rather runne away, then endeavour to ſave themſelves by bringing deſtruction upon the whole Citty.* Then the Court roſe and every man departed, ſo great a Company going before, and following after Alderman *Garroway* to his houſe, that the Streets were as full as at my Lord Majors ſhow, ſome crying out, *Wher's Ven and his Mirmidons*, others, *When they ſhould meet*, to which a generall ſhoute anſwered *Now, Now*; one of good credit with them, wiſhed them to proceed with diſcretion, *A Pox of Diſcretion* (*ſaid a Butcher,*) *we ſhall be undone with it, let us proceed as theſe People have taught; when we asked them what we ſhould have in the place of Biſhops, they told us, Biſhops were naught we all knew, and when they were gone, we ſhould think of having ſomewhat that is better in their roome; let us now take away what we know is naught, and we ſhall doe well enough after,* I owe them a good turne, for the honour they have done my Trade, *ſaiſt thou ſo* (ſaid a ſturdy Mariner) *beleeve it, they who would perſwade the honeſt Sailers to turne Traitors to their good King, for all His favours to them, ſhall repent it.* The good Alderman being much troubled

troubled to heare the ſeverall expreſſions, beſought them to depart every man to his own home, telling them that if at this time they ſhould doe any thing, it would be imputed to him, and he hoped they wiſhed him no harme; whereupon they were contented to part, promiſing one another that when they next met, they would doe ſomething worth ſpeaking of, and agreed that the word ſhould be (*Gurney*) in honour of their good Lord MAJOR.

FINIS.